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AusBiotech2010
AUSTRALIA'S BIOTECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

**National
Conference**

19 to 22 October 2010
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
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AUSBIOTECH 2010 NATIONAL CONFERENCE SPEAKERS' PROFILE

Professor German Spangenberg
Executive Director, Biosciences Research Division
Victorian Department of Primary Industries

Professor German Spangenberg is Executive Director, BioSciences Research Division of the Victorian Department of Primary Industries (DPI), and Professor (Plant Genetics and Genomics) with La Trobe University. He received his PhD from the University of Heidelberg and Max-Planck-Institute of Cell Biology in Heidelberg, Germany. He carried out postdoctoral research studies at the Max-Planck-Institute of Cell Biology and the Institute of Plant Sciences at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zürich, Switzerland. After this, he became Assistant Professor and Associate Professor at the ETH-Zürich.



In 1995 he moved to Australia to establish a plant biotechnology centre for DPI. Professor Spangenberg is Chief Scientist of the Dairy Futures Cooperative Research Centre and Chief Scientist and Research Director of the Molecular Plant Breeding Cooperative Research Centre as well as Chairman of the Victorian AgriBiosciences Centre. He also leads the nodes for agrifood applications of the Victorian Microarray Technology Consortium, the Victorian Bioinformatics Consortium and the Victorian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics. He is also Director and Chief Scientific Officer of Phytogene Pty. Ltd., a biotechnology spin-off company of the Plant Biotechnology Centre, Managing Director (R&D) of AgGenomics Pty. Ltd., Australia's first service company in agricultural genomics; and Chief Scientific Officer of Gramina Pty. Ltd. He was the recipient of the Australian Thinker of Year 2006 Award 'in recognition of his world class innovations in pasture plant genomics and biotechnology and his leadership in bringing these innovations to the marketplace for the benefit of the wider community and temperate grassland agriculture worldwide'. In 2007, he was elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering 'for his inspiring and innovative research in agricultural biotechnology and as a world leader in pasture plant genomics and gene technology'.